Four political objectives
- Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- National reconsolidation
- Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives
- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives
- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Waso robes, alms donated to members of Sangha of Pitaka Thonbon Nikaya Monastery of Dagon Myothit (South) Township

YANGON, 9 July — A ceremony to donate Waso robes to members of the Sangha from Pitaka Thonbon Nikaya Monastery of Dagon Myothit (South) Township was held in conjunction with the ceremony to honour title recipients Sayadaws and monks who passed the religious examinations at Pyilon Chantha Maha Ordination Hall of the monastery this morning.

Present on the occasion were Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw of the monastery Tipitakadhara Dhamma bhandagarika Bhaddanta Silakkhanda Bhivamsa and members of the Sangha, Lt-Gen Myint Swe of the Ministry of Defence and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay, Chairman of Yangon East District Peace and Development Council Lt-Col Maung Maung Shein and party, township authorities, departmental officials, members of social organizations and well-wishers.

Members of the Sangha and the congregation recited Namo Tassa three times at the opening of the ceremony.

Next, Lt-Gen Myint Swe and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay and party took the Nine Precepts from Sayadaw Bhaddanta Silakkhanda Bhivamsa. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas.

Lt-Gen Myint Swe of Ministry of Defence, wife Daw Khin Thet Htay and party share merits gained for offering Waso robes and alms to Sayadaws of Pitaka Thonbon Nikaya Monastery of Dagon Myothit (South) Township. — MNA

Defence and wife Daw Khin Thet Htay offered Waso robes and alms to the Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw.

Those present also offered Waso robes and alms to members of the Sangha.

At the ceremony to honour title recipients Sayadaws and monks who passed the religious examinations, Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññinda of the monastery read out the biography of Deputy Administrator Sayadaw Bhaddanta Narinda of the monastery who was conferred Maha Ganthavaca Pandita title by the State Peace and Security Council.

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.
Ministry of Finance and Revenue holds 4th Waso robes offering ceremony

NAY PYI TAW, 9 July — Staff Families of the Ministry of Finance and Revenue held the 4th Waso robes offering ceremony at the hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday. It was attended by Mogok Vipassana Monastery Presiding Nayaka Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gandhamala and members of the Sangha. Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win, Deputy Minister Col Hla Thein Swe, departmental heads and staff families.

First, the Nayaka Sayadaw invested the congregation with the Five Precepts. Members of the Sangha recited Parittas. Later, the minister and wife and those present offered Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaws. Sayadaw Bhaddanta Gandhamala delivered a sermon, and those present shared the merits gained.

After the ceremony, they donated 'soon' to members of the Sangha. — MNA

Merits shared for 228th Rice Offering Ceremony

YANGON, 9 July — A ceremony to share merits for the 228th Rice Offering Ceremony of All Yangon Pariyatti Sasana Nuggaha Rice was held at the Shwedagon Pagoda this afternoon. It was attended by Patron U Aye, the chairman and members of the organization. On the occasion, Pariyatti Sarthintaik Ovadacariya Sayadaw Bhaddanta Sanvarabodi invested the congregation with the Eight Precepts. Next, U Aye offered alms to the Sayadaw. The organization offers rice to 20000 members of the Sangha from 187 monasteries in Yangon Division three times a year.

Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Missionary Group offers robes to nuns

YANGON, 9 July— With the sponsorship of Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Missionary Group led by women, the 27th ceremony to present 250 sets of robes to Chinese and Myanmar nuns was held at the Western Park Restaurant near Thakhen Mya Park in Ahlone Township this morning. It was attended by Chinese and Myanmar nuns. Chairperson of Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Missionary Group Daw Khin Myint, executives and members of the organization presented 250 sets of robes to 125 nuns of 14 nunneries, followed by sharing of merits gained. The ceremony ended with the recitation of Buddha Sasana Nuggaha Rice offering ceremony.

Chairperson of Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Missionary Group Daw Khin Myint and members donate robes to nuns. — MNA

Minister for Finance and Revenue Maj-Gen Hla Tun and wife Daw Khin Than Win offer Waso robes to a Sayadaw. — V&R

Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Missionary Group offers robes to nuns

YANGON, 9 July— With the sponsorship of Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Missionary Group led by women, the 27th ceremony to present 250 sets of robes to Chinese and Myanmar nuns was held at the Western Park Restaurant near Thakhen Mya Park in Ahlone Township this morning. It was attended by Chinese and Myanmar nuns. Chairperson of Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Missionary Group Daw Khin Myint, executives and members of the organization presented 250 sets of robes to 125 nuns of 14 nunneries, followed by sharing of merits gained. The ceremony ended with the recitation of Buddha Sasana Nuggaha Rice offering ceremony.

Chairperson of Chinese-Myanmar Buddhist Missionary Group Daw Khin Myint and members donate robes to nuns. — MNA
AMM to discuss key regional issues

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 July — The 39th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) to be held in Kuala Lumpur later this month will discuss several key issues, including regional security, Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar said on Friday.

The four-day event also will discuss efforts to strengthen ASEAN, including the ASEAN Charter which is being drafted by an expert group, Syed Hamid told local reporters in Malaysia’s northern state of Terengganu.

Meanwhile, the meeting will find ways to strengthen the Secretariat of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) to step up the implementation of decisions made by ASEAN countries, he said after attending a lecture on current affairs there.

The AMM will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on 24-28 July. The 13th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) also would be taking place at that time.

Twenty five countries plus the European Union, including the United States, Russia, New Zealand, North Korea and South Korea, will attend the gathering.

The forum will discuss the current issues, the security framework in Southeast Asia, and other matters like how the ASEAN region can remain peaceful and safe, Syed Hamid said.

It also will enable participants to touch on wider issues like the Korean Peninsula, Palestine, Iran’s nuclear development programmes, he said.

In addition, the energy security issue was expected to receive attention at the gathering, he noted.

Many countries had shown interest to take part in the forum and Bangladesh would be the latest country to be brought into the forum, he added. MNA/Xinhua

India-Bangladesh talks end successfully

AGARTALA, 8 July — The meeting of the joint working group on trade between India and Bangladesh concluded here on Thursday with both sides agreeing to develop infrastructure in the land Customs stations and reduce nontariff barriers.

The additional secretary of the Union Ministry of Commerce, M V P Sastry, and additional secretary of Bangladesh Ministry of Commerce, Ilias Ahmed, signed a memorandum of understanding after the meeting. Briefing newsmen, Sastry said both sides felt there was a need for development and modernization of infrastructures of existing land Customs stations and increase in its numbers in Bangladesh and in the border states of India.

The officials of land Customs from both sides would soon meet to workout and prioritize the infrastructure development work and enhance numbers of land Customs stations, he said in the presence of Ahmed.

The recommendations of Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and FICCI regarding enhancement of trade and commerce were also discussed and both sides agreed to the reduction of nontariff barriers for promotion of trade—MNA/PTI

Plotters sought to bomb New York Tunnel

NEW YORK, 8 July — A plot to bomb New York’s Holland Tunnel in an effort to flood the Wall Street financial district has been uncovered by the FBI with a suspect arrested in Lebanon, New York’s Daily News reported on Friday.

Representative Peter King, a New York Republican and chair of the US House of Representatives Homeland Security Committee, said he had argued strenuously against recurrence funding for New York because of exactly such plots.

“There is a lot to what was today’s Daily News story, but that’s really all I can confirm about it,” he told CNN.

“I also confirm that there are significant ongoing plots against the city of New York’s mass transit system.” The newspaper, quoting unidentified counterterrorism sources, said the investigation involved what officials considered a “serious plot” to detonate enough explosives inside the landmark tunnel to destroy it and send devastating floodwaters through lower Manhattan.

MNA/Reuters

11 injured in train bomb explosion in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, 8 July — Eleven people were injured when a bomb exploded on Friday in a train downtown Sao Paulo, Brazil’s largest city.

The injured were rushed to local hospitals, and none had risk of life, local media reported.

The explosion occurred at 10:45 am (local time) in the East Express Train of the E line at Bras Station, according to the Sao Paulo Metropolitan Railway Company (CPTM).—MNA/Xinhua

Research says mice able to show empathy for each other

LONDON, 8 July — Scientists in Canada have discovered that mice could be capable of showing empathy for each other.

The discovery was made during experiments in which well-acquainted mice were fed vinegar, which caused mild stomach-ache for around two minutes, the researchers said.

In one experiment two mice were strangers to each other, they displayed fear of each other, they displayed few signs of pain.

It is thought that this masking of pain is done to avoid revealing vulnerability to a potential rival.

The same happened in another test in which a chemical was used to cause mild inflammation of a paw, the researchers said.

They found that the mice had to see each other’s sufferings for the effect to kick in. The pheromones that enable this effect to kick in. The pheromones that enable this recognition also played a role, the scientists added. MNA/Xinhua

Cars drive toward the outbound entrance of the Holland Tunnel in New York. The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said on 7 July, 2006 that eight people have been identified to be involved in a plot to blow up tunnels in New York, CNN Television reported.—INTERNET

Three Marines killed in western Iraq fighting

BAGHDAD, 9 July — Three American troops were killed Saturday in fighting in the western province of Anbar, the US military said.

They were the first US fatalities reported in Iraq in four days and only the eighth so far this month.

A US statement said the three were assigned to the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force and died due to “enemy action” in the predominantly Sunni Arab province. No further details were released. Internet

Melissa Cabral (C) from Cuba waves after winning the title of Miss Disco Queen of the World during a contest of the 2006 Miss Tourism Queen International, in Pinghu, east China’s Zhejiang Province, on 6 July, 2006.—INTERNET
Indian sand artist Sudarshan Patnaik gives finishing touches to the sand sculptures of Italy's football player Fabio Cannavaro (R) and France's football player Zinedine Zidane at the Golden beach in Puri, about 70 kilometres (43 miles) east of the Indian eastern city of Orissa, on 8 July, 2006.—INTERNET

US soldier subdued on Florida flight

Tampa (Florida), 8 July — A US soldier recently returned from Iraq tried to force his way into the cockpit of a Tampa-bound Delta Air Lines jet and was subdued by other passengers, Tampa International Airport officials said on Friday.

The 24-year-old man was undergoing mental evaluation at a Tampa Hospital and the FBI was investigating whether charges should be filed, airport spokeswoman Brenda Geoghagan said.

The man, Neftali Alexander Laimendez, was flying with his brother to see their mother in Tampa and to seek medical attention, Geoghagan said.

As the flight from New York’s LaGuardia Airport approached Tampa on Thursday night, he ignored flight attendants’ instructions to sit down and fasten his seat belt, and ran up the aisle of the plane and into the first class cabin, Geoghagan said.

“As he is running, he is ramming the cockpit door, falling on the aisle, getting up and repeatedly doing this,” she said.

“Three or four of the passengers restrained him and held him on the floor.”

Airport police arrested him after the McDonnell Douglas MD-88 landed. Laimendez was unarmed and wearing civilian clothes, according to investigators who said his intent was unclear.

He was taken to a hospital for evaluation under a law that allows people to be held involuntarily for 72 hours if they are considered a threat to themselves or others, Geoghagan said.

Laimendez is a US soldier who had recently returned to the United States from Iraq, and his term of service was to end on 12 July, Geoghagan said.

Cockpit doors on all US airliners have been reinforced and locked since the 11 September hijackings.

“The hardening of the cockpit door worked,” said airport Executive Director Louis Miller, who praised the passengers who tackled and subdued Laimendez. 

MNA/Reuters

Bi-fuel cars dominate Brazilian vehicle market

RODOLFO JANEIRO, 8 July — An increasing number of Brazilians are choosing to buy vehicles that use both gas and ethanol as fuel, with the so-called bi-fuel cars accounting for 76.3 per cent of the total sold in the country in the first half of this year.

Brazilians bought 622,200 bi-fuel cars in the first six months, an increase of 133 per cent over a year earlier, the National Association of Automotive Vehicles Manufacturers (Anfavea) said on Thursday, citing a recent survey.

The market share went up to 77.1 per cent in June alone, prompting analysts to be upbeat about further expansion.

Bi-fuel cars are increasingly popular because they allow consumers to shift from one fuel to another according to prices.

They can even choose to fill the tank with a mixture of gas and ethanol, according to Anfavea. Manufacturers launched bi-fuel cars in Brazil in 2003 as an alternative to those that exclusively use gas or ethanol.

Ethanol, which is produced from sugar cane, has been largely used in the country since the oil crisis in the 1970s, as it is much cheaper than gas.

MNA/Xinhua

Cambodia’s top legislator visits Vietnam for closer bilateral ties

Hanoi, 8 July — The visit to Vietnam by president of Cambodia’s National Assembly Heng Samrin will help reinforce and expand solidarity, and friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries.

Nguyen Phu Trong, president of Vietnam’s National Assembly, the country’s highest legislative body, made the statement when holding talks with his visiting counterpart on Friday.

The friendly and cooperative ties between Vietnam and Cambodia “are developing very finely”, and will further develop within a framework of “good-neighbourliness, traditional friendship, comprehensive cooperation and durable stability”, Trong said.

The Cambodian top legislator said his visit, made at the invitation of the Vietnamese legislative leader, is an opportunity for Cambodia to get to know achievements gained by Vietnam in general and by its National Assembly in particular, and seek ways of fostering the bilateral relations.

After the talks, the Cambodia top legislator met with Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung. The two sides mentioned issues of mutual concern.

Since the establishment of their diplomatic relations in 1967, Vietnam and Cambodia have developed bilateral ties in various spheres, including economy and trade.

Their import-export turnovers rose 30 per cent to roughly 692 million US dollars in 2005. The two countries agreed to a target of gaining two-way trade of one billion US dollars in 2006 during an official visit to Cambodia by former prime minister Phan Van Khai in March.

MNA/Xinhua

Peru hopes to improve relations with Venezuela

QUITO, 8 July — Peru’s President-elect Alan Garcia said here on Thursday that the new Peruvian Government would make efforts to improve relations with Venezuela.

Garcia, who is currently on a tour to Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Ecuador, told a Press conference in Quito that he was not pursuing through the tour a so-called “axis” against Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez.

The tour was aimed at improving regional integration and strengthening the role of the Andean Community of Nations (CAN), he stressed.

“The new Peruvian Government hopes to resume normal relations with Venezuela,” Garcia said.

He noted that Venezuela’s withdrawal from CAN in April was an “economic event” and was not caused by political differences between Venezuela and CAN.

Garcia said he believed Venezuela would return to CAN.

Chavez and Garcia were involved in a war of words since April. The Venezuelan President frequently criticized Garcia, Peru’s then presidential candidate, and expressed his public support for Garcia’s rival, nationalist candidate Ollanta Humala.

MNA/Xinhua
The explosion took place around 6:30 am in a villager’s home in Dongzhai Village, Dongzhai Township, local police sources confirmed.

Preliminary investigation suggests that a fire was blamed for triggering the explosion.

A worker with the Ningwu County Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) said over the phone that in the beginning, one villager’s home suddenly caught fire, many fellow villagers then rushed to help extinguish the fire.

Suddenly, the bungalow ablaze exploded, killing 37 villagers on the spot and injuring many others. Six more died in the hospital.

The villagers’ homes were blasted into rubble. Windows of adjacent houses were broken amid the explosion, the county party committee worker, whose name was unknown.

Zhang Baoshun, secretary of the Shanxi Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC), demanded that all out efforts be made to rescue the injured, and responsible persons be punished according to law.

Ningwu County, administered by Xinzhou City, takes a bus ride of more than four hours to reach from Taiyuan, the provincial capital.

Party and government authorities of Ningwu and Xinzhou have rushed to the scene around 6:30 am when a moving train hit the villager’s home suddenly caught fire.

Although a Malaysian newspaper quoted the world’s most beautiful woman Kristin Davis has been voted the world’s most beautiful woman. The brunette actress—who played uptight Charlotte York in the hit show—beat a host of stunning stars to take the top spot in the poll, conducted by Britain’s Eve magazine.

Raven-haired Catherine Zeta-Jones took second place while X-Men beauty Halle Berry came in third. Nicole Kidman and Monster star Charlize Theron rounded out the top five.

Former Friends star Jennifer Aniston was in ninth place, just ahead of pillow-lipped beauty Angelina Jolie, who came in 10th. Eve editor Sara Cremer said, “Kristin’s natural beauty combined with her on-screen presence make her a woman with style and substance.”

“She exudes sex appeal without compromising her intelligence and independence.”

“My father used that tract as a shortcut to his friend’s house,” the paper quoted V. Chandran, a brother of the bachelor Marathai, as saying.
Chile, Bolivia agree to establish joint committee

SANTIAGO, 8 July—Chile and Bolivia agreed on Thursday to establish a joint committee for discussion on bilateral ties, a step closer in their efforts to re-establish full diplomatic relations between the two neighbouring countries.

The committee is scheduled to meet for the first time on July 18 and the meeting would be chaired by the two countries’ deputy foreign ministers, Chilean Foreign Minister Alejandro Foxley told a joint Press conference with new Bolivian consul to Chile Jose Pinelo.

Both Chile and Bolivia want not only “a very positive relationship” but also progress for the future, said Foxley, noting Chile was especially interested in working with Bolivia and Peru for joint projects in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Pinelo said Bolivia was “very willing” to proceed with the endeavour for improved relations between them.

On Wednesday, Pinelo said the two countries had yet to begin formal talks on diplomatic ties but added the Bolivian Government led by President Evo Morales was interested in strengthening bilateral relations.—MNA/Xinhua

Chinese Premier inspects Customs headquarters

BEIJING, 8 July— Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao Thursday inspected the headquarters of the General Administration of Customs (GAC) and held talks with Customs officers on the reform of the administrative system.

The Premier was briefed by GAC commissioner Mou Xinsheng on the operation of the Customs system. Premier Wen expressed his appreciation of Customs officials for doing a good job in recent years, as indicated by the rapid growth in Customs revenues.

Before coming to GAC, the Premier also visited the national Customs information centre, where he talked on the phone with officers on duty at the Shenzheng Customs in Shenzhen, Guangdong Province in south China and the Khunjrap Customs in Xinjiang region in northwest China.—MNA/Xinhua

Singapore approves 3 strategic research programmes

SINGAPORE, 8 July— Singapore’s high-level Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council (RIEC) chaired by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong approved three strategic research programmes for the next five years on Friday.

According to a statement issued after the 18 appointed members of the RIEC concluded their first meeting here Friday, the programmes include the second phase of the Biomedical Sciences programme, the Environmental and Water Technologies programme and the Interactive and Digital Media programme.

The government is to allocate 1.4 billion Singapore dollars (about 887 million US dollars) in the next five years to fund these programmes while expecting these three sectors to generate a combined 30 billion Singapore dollars (about 19 billion US dollars) of value added and create 86,000 jobs by 2015.

“Singapore is committed to invest in R&D (research and development) as a driver for economic growth and as a foundation for our long-term competitiveness,” Lee was quoted by the statement as saying.—MNA/Xinhua

Pakistan denies links with London bombers

ISLAMABAD, 8 July—Pakistan has denied any links with people involved in the last year’s London suicide bombing.

Information Minister Muhammad Ali Durrani dispelled on Friday the impression that a video tape of a suicide bomber, Tanveer Shehzad, might have been prepared in Pakistan.

Tanveer Shehzad in his video, released by al-Qaeda on Thursday, a day ahead of the first anniversary of the London bombing, had threatened more attacks.

Durrani told the BBC Urdu service that Pakistan was playing the role of front line state in the war on terrorism and that hundreds of its security men had been killed in anti-terror campaign.

“Pakistan is itself the victim of terrorism,” the minister said.

He said that those who had evidence to link Pakistan with the July 7, 2005 London suicide bombers should provide it to the government.

He said that Pakistan would fully cooperate in the investigation.

Three bombers were stated to be British born Pakistanis. Some 52 people were killed in the blasts.

British investigators have been saying that Tanveer Shehzad had visited Pakistan before the bombing and had studied in a religious seminary. —MNA/Xinhua

60,000 children work in S African farms

JOHANNESBURG, 8 July— There are approximately 60,000 children working in South African farms, it was learned at a conference on child labour here on Thursday.

Teresa Yates of Social Surveys Africa said that there were only limited statistics in South Africa on the extent of child labour on farms.

“Teresa Yates was speaking at the Reducing Exploitative Child Labour in South Africa conference in Boksburg in a paper on child labour in commercial agriculture. She said there was also little literature available on child labour on farms.

This because the practice mostly occur far away from researchers in remote areas, and that the prevalence of it was kept hidden by parents, children and farmers.—MNA/Xinhua

Kabul’s best-known hotel catches big fire, causing no casualties

KABUL, 8 July — The most famous hotel in Kabul, capital of Afghanistan, caught big fire at dusk of Friday, fortunately causing no casualties.

A Xinhua reporter on the spot saw fire flying crazily in a storehouse attached to the six-storied main building of the Inter Continental Hotel, which is the most well-known one in the city and mainly accommodates foreigners and local rich men. The fire then climbed up along the main building, burning all its appearance into blackness and causing fumes of smoke.

Several red fire trucks rushed to the spot with sirens wailing, and some policemen carrying machine-guns were maintaining order there.

Hotel chefs told Xinhua the fire first broke out at around 6:00 p.m. when sparks from a barbecue shelf flew into the storehouse due to wind.

Fortunately, the fire in the beginning was not heavy, so all guests and staffs in the hotel had the time to flee.

The police had arrested some hotel staff members for investigation, and damages by the fire were yet to be counted. —MNA/Xinhua

Singapore approves 3 strategic research programmes

SINGAPORE, 8 July— Singapore’s high-level Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council (RIEC) chaired by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong approved three strategic research programmes for the next five years on Friday.

According to a statement issued after the 18 appointed members of the RIEC concluded their first meeting here Friday, the programmes include the second phase of the Biomedical Sciences programme, the Environmental and Water Technologies programme and the Interactive and Digital Media programme.

The government is to allocate 1.4 billion Singapore dollars (about 887 million US dollars) in the next five years to fund these programmes while expecting these three sectors to generate a combined 30 billion Singapore dollars (about 19 billion US dollars) of value added and create 86,000 jobs by 2015.

“Singapore is committed to invest in R&D (research and development) as a driver for economic growth and as a foundation for our long-term competitiveness,” Lee was quoted by the statement as saying.—MNA/Xinhua

Singapore approves 3 strategic research programmes

SINGAPORE, 8 July— Singapore’s high-level Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council (RIEC) chaired by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong approved three strategic research programmes for the next five years on Friday.

According to a statement issued after the 18 appointed members of the RIEC concluded their first meeting here Friday, the programmes include the second phase of the Biomedical Sciences programme, the Environmental and Water Technologies programme and the Interactive and Digital Media programme.

The government is to allocate 1.4 billion Singapore dollars (about 887 million US dollars) in the next five years to fund these programmes while expecting these three sectors to generate a combined 30 billion Singapore dollars (about 19 billion US dollars) of value added and create 86,000 jobs by 2015.

“Singapore is committed to invest in R&D (research and development) as a driver for economic growth and as a foundation for our long-term competitiveness,” Lee was quoted by the statement as saying.—MNA/Xinhua
Dublin airport evacuated for second time
due to suspect package

London, 9 July —
The Dublin International Airport was evacuated again on Friday after a suspect package was spotted in the arrival hall, an airport spokesman said.
The spokesman said an Irish Army team has been called in to check the package.

This has been the second evacuation since Tuesday when police arrested a Dublin man who claimed he had a bomb in the bag he was carrying. But the bag was found to contain clothes and papers later. About 20 passenger jets were on the ground by 9 am (0800 GMT), an hour after the evacuation began, but no passengers would be allowed to disembark until the alert was over, the spokesman said. — MNA/Xinhua

Officer and other ranks of Insein Township Police Force present K 51,000 for offering gold foils to Shwezigon Pagoda of NyaungU to U Soe Win (Singa Soe Win) and responsible persons on 3 July. — U

The government is striving for ensuring brighter future of Myanmar youths and promoting their health, education and social standards to be able to catch up with the international level. The youths play a part in the nation-building tasks.
The youths also demonstrate zealous performances in the activities of social organizations such as the Union Solidarity and Development Association, the Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, the Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, the Myanmar Red Cross Society and the Myanmar Sports Federations. The strength of the youths is an engine for shaping a brighter future of Myanmar.
Now, the world population has touched more than 6,500 million. According to the estimation of UN population experts, the world population will reach at 7,830 million in 2015, and 11,900 million in 2050.
The World Population Day is a day of significance for every people and nation and is the concern of the people of all ages. It is also an auspicious day that helps secure perpetuation of the human society and prosperity of the world.
The departments and non-governmental organizations are therefore urged to strengthen cooperation and collaboration with the Ministry of Immigration and Population and the UNFPA to accomplish this year’s World Population Day tasks.

The World Population Day is a day of significance for every people and nation and is the concern of the people of all ages.
It is also an auspicious day that helps secure perpetuation of the human society and prosperity of the world.

Since 1991, Myanmar has yearly observed the World Population Day, which falls on 11 July.
The theme designated for this year’s World Population Day is “Young People”, and its significance is a serious exhortation for widespread dissemination of the information that the nurturing of the adolescents and youths who will shape the future, for their physical, mental and moral development means making the world prosperous. In this regard, the implementation of the objectives of the theme calls for all-year round mass activities.

World Population Day commemorative quiz, poster, essay and photo contests are held with the collaborative support of the ministries concerned to expand the scope of the youths’ knowledge of health, education and social affairs. The contests draw the attention of a wide range of contestants including youths.
According to the UN, the people aged between 10 and 24 are young people, aged between 10 and 19, adolescents and aged between 15 and 24, youths.
Today’s youths are the greatest generation in the history and they will play an important role. A special attention is to be paid to the nurturing of youths to bring more prosperity and progress throughout the world. With the development of the youths’ skills and reasoning power alongside correct commitments, the future human society can look forward to greater development.
The collective nurturing of youths has been accorded special attention worldwide. The resolutions and future tasks of the international conferences concerning young people are as follows:
(1) future tasks laid down by the International Conference on Population and Development (1994)
(2) Beijing Declaration of the International Women’s Conference (1995)
(3) work programmes the UN laid down in 1995 to be carried out after 2000
(4) Millennium Development Goals laid down by the UN in 2000
(5) agreements on HIV/AIDS laid down in the UN special conferences in 2001 and agreements on children in 2002
(6) the agreement of the UNFPA, the UNICEF and the WHO in 1977 that the investment for the health and development of adolescent the most important investment for the economic, social and political development of a nation.
Today’s youths are the generation who will shape the future of the nation for its prosperity including better health standard. Youths need to lead a duty-conscious life so that they will be able to make correct decisions concerning sex and reproductive health care. Only when today’s youths are healthy and strong with high intellectual power, will they, when they lead a married life, be able to reproduce their generations who are fit and dynamic. And that will contribute towards the sustainable development of the nation.
Among the Millennium Development Goals being implemented all over the world are to enable each school-age child to have access to primary education, to ensure equal rights between women and men, to reduce infant mortality rate, to improve the health of pregnant women, to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, and to ensure cooperation of world nations for sustainable development of the environment.
Waso robes, alms donated to members of Sangha of Pitaka Thonbon Nikaya...

(from page 1)

Development Council on 4 January 2006, and biographies of Ashin Pañissara, Ashin Veddita, Ashin Jetipala and Ashin Jotissaralankara of the same monastery who won Ubbato Vibhangadhara title in the 58th Tiptikadhara Tiptikavada Selection Examination in 1367 ME. Lt-Gen Myint Swe presented titles and provisions to five members of the Sangha.

Wellwisher U Thet Zaw-Daw Htet Htet Nwe (KAWA Sho Co Ltd) also donated provisions to the Sayadaws. Next, the President Nayaka Sayadaw delivered a sermon, followed by sharing of merits gained.

After the ceremony, Lt-Gen Myint Swe, wife Daw Khin Thet Htay and officials offered ‘soon’ to 350 members of the Sangha from the monastery. MNA

Educative talks on cancer conducted

Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee donates cash for cancer patient of the Children’s Hospital through Commander Brig-Gen Hla Hay Win. — MNA

Minister for Mines receives guests

NAV PYI TAW, 9 July — Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint received Mr Shuangchun Bao and party of SinoSteel Sichuan Co Ltd at the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw on 7 July. Also present at the call were departmental officials of the ministry. MNA

Construction Ministry holds Waso robes offering ceremony

NAV PYI TAW, 9 July — Under the auspices of Minister for Construction Maj-Gen Saw Tun and wife Daw Myint Myint, families of the ministry held a Waso robes offering ceremony at the meeting hall of the ministry in Nay Pyi Taw yesterday morning.

The ceremony was attended by five members of the Sangha led by Uyinsu Monastery Sayadaw Bhandata Agga Vamsa. It was also attended by Maj-Gen Saw Tun and wife Daw Myint Myint, Deputy Ministers U Tint Swe and Brig-Gen Myint Then, heads of departments, officials and families of the ministry. The Sayadaw invested the con-gregation with the Five Precepts. The minster and wife and those present offered Waso robes and provisions to the Sayadaw and members of the Sangha. Sayadaw Bhandata Agga Vamsa delivered a sermon and those present shared the merits gained. After the ceremony, ‘soon’ was offered to the Sayadaw and members of Sangha. MNA
IPRD opens libraries in urban and rural ... 

(continued from page 16) In addition, tasks are to be carried out for development of the libraries.

Today is education age. Only when the people have advanced knowledge to apply modern technologies, will they be able to face challenges of the education age.

Knowledge and technology advancing countries might have abilities to take a lead in all the countries. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance, saying that the nation cannot be built by uneducated persons.

At present, Sagaing Division has been facilitated with 6,107 self-reliant ward and village libraries and 58 e-libraries installed with 329 computers and 31,399 CD-ROMs. Furthermore, the computer courses were conducted to students and personnel including members of the Sangha.

The Tatmadaw Government is building a peaceful, modern, developed and discipline-flourishing democratic nation. This being so, highly-qualified people with the wide scope of knowledge will be able to participate in the tasks to draw the enduring constitution that will serve the interests of the nation and the people.

Today, the entire people can be supplied with basic needs, and food can also be supplied with surplus production. However, the increasing number of machinery are in need of fuel. According to the research works, fuel can be extracted from sugarcane, soya-bean, maize, vegetables and physic nut seeds. Physic nut plants can be cultivated in all regions of the country. Especially, physic nut plantations are thriving in Sagaing Division. Therefore, all are to put vacant and virgin lands of schools, factories and offices under physic nut plants as a national education system after laying down the 30-year long-term plan. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on transforming the Myanma society into a life-long learning society.

In accord with the guidance, youths of today have been able to grasp the opportunity of having easy access to education of international level. However, 70 per cent of rural people are in no position to have access to such opportunity. This being the case, arrangements have been made to open self-reliant libraries in villages.

The extended opening of libraries amounts to discharging national duties. To be able to do so, the five long-term work programmes are to be implemented through the concerted efforts of the State, the people and the people.

In his speech, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan said that today, being knowledge age, technology is being applied in various activities of society such as production, education, health etc. For the promotion of the national education, priority is being given to development of education system after laying down the 30-year long-term plan. Head of State Senior General Than Shwe has given guidance on transforming the Myanma society into a life-long learning society.

Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint accepts K 100,000 presented by Chairman Lt-Col Myo Myint of Sagaing Division War Veterans Supervisory Committee.— MNA

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye accepts K 300,000 presented by U Win Maw of Forever Group for self-reliant libraries. — MNA

In this regard, local authorities, members of the village libraries committees and the Union Solidarity and Development Associations and staff under the Ministry of Information are to make continued efforts for the success of the project.

Next, USBC member Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint made a speech, saying that those who jeopardize the interests of the State and the people are to be warded off and those who are well qualified are to be chosen. In accord with the guidance of the Head of State, Sagaing Division has been able to open self-reliant libraries in all villages of the division.

The minister thanked the USDA members, the people and well-wishers for their contributions through the concerted efforts of the State, the people and well-wishers.

The project for opening of self-reliant libraries in villages started in 2004-2005. In 2006, various kinds of publications were donated for 18th time to libraries of 54,707 villages. The donations amounted to 2,256,509 publications worth K 2,124,000 numbering K 505,593,989 plus K 122,555,000.

The project for opening of self-reliant libraries in villages started in 2004-2005. In 2006, various kinds of publications were donated for 18th time to libraries of 54,707 villages. The donations amounted to 2,256,509 publications worth K 2,124,000 numbering K 505,593,989 plus K 122,555,000.

The minister thanked the USDA members, the people and well-wishers for their contributions through the concerted efforts of the State, the people and well-wishers.

The project for opening of self-reliant libraries in villages started in 2004-2005. In 2006, various kinds of publications were donated for 18th time to libraries of 54,707 villages. The donations amounted to 2,256,509 publications worth K 2,124,000 numbering K 505,593,989 plus K 122,555,000.

Next, a ceremony to donate cash, TV sets, radio cassettes and publications to libraries in Sagaing Division took place and Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsuan presented books and magazines. Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint TV sets and others and Sagaing Division USDA, 560 publications worth K 151,300 to Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye. After that, Chairman of Sagaing Division PDC Lt-Col Soe Naing presented TV set, radio cassettes, U Tin Maung of Honda Myanmar Co K 1 million, Dr Tha Yin Myat-Daw Nwe Nwe Aye and family K 1 million, U Hein Win FEC 300 and U Win Maw of Forever Group K 300,000 to Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye.

Next, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsuan accepted the donations—K 5 million, TV set and radio cassettes by Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, K 1 million by Deputy Commander Brig-Gen Tin Maung Ohn, K 100,000 by Chairperson of Sagaing Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Wai Wai Khine, K 100,000 by Chairperson of Sagaing Division Women Affairs Organization Daw Sin Myint, TV sets and radio cassettes by Chairman of the Chairperson of Sagaing Division War Veterans Supervisory Committee Lt-Col Myo Myint, TV sets and radio cassettes by Chairman of Shwebo District PDC Lt-Col Than Tun, K 127,500 by Sagaing Division MPF, K 500,000 by U Than Tun of Shwe Group Co, K 500,000 by U Tin Lin and K 500,000 by U Aung Kyaw Oo.

Next, Director-General of Information and Public Relations Department U Chi Nat Naing accepted cash and publications including K 93,250 by Deputy Director of Department for Development of Border Areas and National Races Major Moe Myint Aye and K 59,000 by U Ko Lay.

Next, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsuan and Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint presented TV sets, radio cassettes and publications to the respective local authorities.

After the ceremony, the minister viewed documentary photos on development of Sagaing Division.

The donations included K 17,454,200, 42 TV sets worth K 9,528,000, 48 radio cassettes worth K 1,240,000 and 4,248 publications worth K 2,124,000 numbering K 30,346,200 plus FEC 300.— MNA.
**Devotees perform meritorious deeds on Dhammaçakka Day**

YANGON, 9 July —

Today is the Dhammaçakka Day, one of the significant days of Buddhists. On that day, devotees and wellwishers donated Waso robes and alms to members of the Sangha, and visited religious buildings and venues including pagodas, stupas and monasteries to perform various kinds of meritorious deeds.

At Shwedagon Pagoda, Buddha images were offered with Shwekyar robes, flowers, water, lights, joss sticks and fruits. Members of the Sangha administered Desanas to the devotees and pilgrims. In addition, those present at the pagoda were served with various kinds of refreshments. At the prayer halls of the pagoda, devotees practised meditation, religious associations recited religious verses.

The ceremonies to offer Shwekyar robes to Buddha images were held at Sule Pagoda, Botataung Pagoda, Kaba Aye Pagoda, Lawka Chantha Abhaya Labha Muni Buddha Image, Shwephonepwint, Kyainkasan, Tooth Relic Pagoda (Yangon), Maha Wiraya, Chaukhtatkyi, Koedatgyi, Mailamu, Kyaikwaing, Moegaung, South Okkalapa, Dagon Myothit MyoU Pagoda and other pagodas and stupas. Similarly, the Dhammaçakka Day was observed at the pagodas and monasteries here.

The Myanmar Buddhist Organization observed the 29th Dhammaçakka Day at its Dhamma Beikman on Shwegondaing in Bahan Township.

At the ceremonies, wellwishers made cash donations to the funds of the religious buildings.

---

**Dry Day Supervisory Committee makes inspection**

YANGON, 9 July —

Chairman of Dry Day Supervisory Committee Yangon Station Commander Brig-Gen Myint Soe, Vice-Chairman Mingaladon Station Commander Col Win Naung and committee members, heads of department and officials concerned supervised the functions of dry day inspection teams at the main points of downtown Yangon this morning.

Members of dry day inspection teams checked dry day pass, driver’s licence and wheel tax bill of departmental and Tatmadaw vehicles, wearing of departmental uniforms and breaking of traffic rules from 7 am to 5 pm. — MNA

---

**Devotees make meritorious deeds at the Shwephonepwint pagoda.** — NLM

**Devotees visit Botataung Pagoda.** — NLM

**Devotees and pilgrims seen at Shwedagon Pagoda on Fullmoon Day of Waso.** — MNA

---

**Wellwisher U Aung Lin (a) U Kaung-Daw Khin Khin (Shwe Myaing Store) of 156, Bo Ywe Street, Latha Township, donate one gold plate weighing three ticals, two 34-inch TVs and two vase stands to Shwedagon Pagoda and K 10 million to three Sasana Yeiktha to U Khin Maung Kyi of the pagoda.**
Philippine children play in the rain at the start of the typhoon season in Paranaque city, suburban Manila, on 8 July, 2006. The Philippines is visited by an average of 19 typhoons every year causing floods and landslides that kill people and destroy crops and properties worth millions of pesos. — INTERNET

Indonesian firm wins railway contract in India

JAKARTA, 9 July — Indonesia’s engineering and construction company PT Adhi Karya has won a 610-billion-rupee (66.81 million US dollars) contract to develop a double-track railway in India, a newspaper reported Saturday.

The state-controlled company said it was notified about the contract on 8 June by India’s Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd as the project owner.

Under the contract, Adhi Karya will be in charge of developing the foundation and the main bridge facility, said The Jakarta Post. The project is located in India’s Orissa Region.

State Minister for State Enterprises Sugiharto said in May that Adhi Karya was seeking construction contracts worth one billion dollars over a three-year period. Top officials from the company accompanied President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to Qatar during an official trip in May.

Sugiharto added that Adhi Karya would also seek projects in Kuwait, which is undergoing a development boom.

EU to increase aid to Zambia

LUSAKA, 9 July — The European Union (EU) will increase its aid to Zambia under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) programmes of assistance starting 2008, a senior EU official said here on Friday.

EU Ambassador to Zambia Henry Spreitsma said the EU has made a decision to increase funding to the countries, including Zambia, that have been doing well in their governance programmes.

“All countries that have done well in their governance programmes will be given some extra funding once we start our new development assistance framework in 2008,” the EU official said at the sideline of the signing ceremony of an agreement on road rehabilitation of Zambia.

Zambia currently receives a basic allocation of about 380 million euros under the five-year 9th EDF, which expires next year.

Under the agreement signed here Friday the EU will give Zambia 15 million euros for the rehabilitation of roads in the southern part of the country. — MNA/Xinhua

Drinking tea may stave off bile stones and cancer

NEW YORK, 9 July — Results of a study conducted in China indicate that drinking tea reduces the risk of bile stones and cancer, especially among women.

Bile stones, which are often seen in women and have been linked to obesity, occur in the ducts that transfer bile from the liver to the small intestine. If the stones block the opening of the gallbladder, they can cause discomfort and pain, typically located just below the rib cage on the right side of the abdomen. At this stage, gallbladder removal, or “cholecystectomy”, is often required.

Serious complications from bile stones are uncommon.

By contrast, “biliary tract cancers...are rare but highly fatal,” Dr Ann W Hsing, of the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland, and colleagues write in the International Journal of Cancer.

“Apart from gallstones, (causative) factors for biliary tract cancer are not clearly defined,” they note. Several studies “have suggested that consumption of tea, especially green tea, is protective against a variety of cancers”.

In the new study, the researchers examined the effects of tea consumption on the risk of biliary tract cancers and biliary stones. Included in the study were 627 patients with biliary tract cancer, 1,037 with biliary stones, and 959 comparison subjects.

The team obtained data on demographics, medical and dietary factors, and tea consumption. Tea drinkers were defined as those who drank at least one cup of tea per day for at least six months. Of the 959 control subjects, 394 (41 per cent) were ever tea drinkers.

In women, drinking at least one cup of tea per day for at least six months seemed to cut the risks of bile stones by 27 per cent, gallbladder cancer by 44 per cent, and bile duct cancer by 35 per cent. In men, tea drinking had a similar effect, but not of the magnitude seen in women. — MNA/Reuters
ASEAN revises guidelines on relations with NGOs

KUALA LUMPUR, 8 July — ASEAN has revised its guidelines on relations with Civil Society Organizations, more popularly known as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Malaysia's national news agency Bernama reported on Friday.

The new guidelines, which took effect on April 6 this year, seek to foster closer ties and cooperation between the governments of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries and CSOs towards the goal of building the ASEAN Community, Bernama quoted the Jakarta-based ASEAN Secretariat as saying.

Since the initial guidelines governing its relations with CSOs were issued 20 years ago, ASEAN has attracted 57 CSOs affiliated with it, Bernama said.

Those CSOs cover a wide range of interests, from healthcare, business, law, technology to sports, it said. Some of them have created fruitful relations with ASEAN bodies, particularly in the exchange of information.

ASEAN-affiliated CSOs receive updated information on ASEAN's major policies, directives and decisions. They are also given the opportunity of participating in ASEAN activities and submitting proposals to ASEAN, according to the ASEAN Secretariat.

The ASEAN guidelines reportedly provide those CSOs affiliated to ASEAN certain privileges, including using the name "ASEAN" and its logo in correspondence and communications and their meetings for non-commercial purposes.

They also can submit written statements or recommendations and views on policy matters or on significant events or international concerns to the ASEAN Standing Committee through the ASEAN Secretariat. Under the guidelines, these CSOs may be allowed access to the ASEAN documentation on a selective basis in consultation with the ASEAN Secretariat for research purposes.

An affiliated CSO may also be allowed the use of the facilities of the ASEAN Secretariat for its formal meetings and activities.

According to the ASEAN Secretariat, among the main objectives of affiliation are to draw the CSOs into the mainstream of ASEAN activities.

It is also to ensure interaction and fruitful relations between the existing ASEAN bodies and the CSOs and to help promote the development of a people-centred ASEAN Community.

US subsidies reduction essential for success of WTO talks

BRASILIA, 8 July — The success of the Doha Round of World Trade Organization (WTO) talks depends on the United States to cut its domestic agricultural subsidies, Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Amorim said on Thursday.

"The most important issue is that the United States must commit itself to reducing its domestic agricultural subsidies," Amorim said.

The failure of last week's talks in Geneva, Switzerland, was because a US subsidies reduction proposal was not enough for the European Union and developing nations, Amorim said.

Compared with the Americans, European negotiators and developing countries are more willing to open their markets for agricultural products and industrial products respectively, he said.

The European Union has proposed reducing its agricultural tariffs by 51 per cent and joined the developing nations in demanding the US cut its subsidies by 12 billion US dollars annually.

Amorim said he hoped that a satisfactory compromise could be reached in St Petersburg, at the

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT CHANGE US WAY OF WARFARE

WASHINGTON, 8 July — US Air Force has drastically increased the use of unmanned surveillance planes in battlefields, revolutionizing warfare, The US Today reported on Friday.

Before the Iraq war started in March 2003, the US Army had 14 such aircraft, officially known as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

But it now has around 700 operating in both Iraq and Afghanistan, most of them small, according to the report. In 2003 and 2004, the Army flew the aircraft for around 1,500 hours per month. However, during the past year, the aircraft flew 9,000 hours a month on average.

UAVs and sensor systems have made it easier to spot insurgents and roadside bombs, thus saving American lives, Pentagon officials and experts said. Using the aircraft, troops can often get an instant picture of what lurks behind the next hill or building.

"One can argue that the standard equipment for a US Marine or infantryman now is the helmet, rifle, boots and UAV," said Christopher Bolckom, a defence expert with the Congressional Research Service.

A US “F-35” fighter dubbed “Lightning II”

WASHINGTON, 8 July — The stealthy F-35 Joint Strike Fighter being developed by the United States and eight other countries is to be named “Lightning II,” in homage to two earlier renowned fighters.

The supersonic F-35 is being built by a team led by Lockheed Martin Corp. and is expected to be the world’s most advanced fighter.

Since the initial F-35构念 was built by a team led by Lockheed Martin Corp. at a cost of 276 billion US dollars. It is the costliest US weapons programme ever.

"The F-35 Lightning II will be the centerpiece of airpower in the 21st century for America and our allies," Deputy Defence Secretary Gordon England said at a ceremony on Friday that also included the public’s first look at the Air Force version of the plane.

THE UNION OF MYANMAR
Ministry of Construction
Public Works

Extension of Invitation for Quotation

The Project Management Unit, Public Works, Ministry of Construction has invited Quotation for LEINLI SUSPENSION BRIDGE.

On behalf of the Ministry of Construction of the Union of Myanmar, Project Management Unit gives notice that the date for completion and return of the Quotation has been extended to 31st October 2006 instead of 31st July 2006.
China aims to maintain record super rice yield

BEIJING, 8 July — China’s farmers will speed up cultivation of new super rice varieties in the next 15 years to raise yields to 13.5 tons a hectare as early as possible.

Minister of Agriculture Du Qinglin said China’s agricultural scientists and researchers had an important mission in the next 15 years to maintain the country’s lead in the development of superior, high-yield rice strains.

Du told a national conference on agricultural science and technology in Beijing that China had made a great breakthrough with the super rice that can produce up to 12 tons per hectare.

After four years of trial crops, a variety named “State Rice No 6” was developed with an average yield of 12.07 tons per hectare in east China’s Zhejiang Province, with a record yield of 12.37 tons per hectare.

Although State Rice No 6 was yet to undergo a national evaluation, its qualities had been recognized by many seed companies, said Zhai Huqiu, president of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

The China National Rice Research Institute last year earned a record 10 million yuan (1.21 million US dollars) from licensing the production of State Rice No 6.

China faces a challenge in maintaining a secure food supply given a growing population, shrinking croplands and scarce water resources.

The government started the “super rice” project in 1996 to improve China’s rice resources.

The public will be able to choose from a list of 150 songs, which include pop music from the Mainland, Taiwan and Hong Kong, and film soundtracks.

Approved by the Chinese Government in 2004, the programme has a budget of 1.4 billion yuan (about 170 million US dollars) as part of the country’s three-stage lunar project. The lunar programme, which was named “Chang’e” after the legendary Chinese goddess who flew to the moon, aims to eventually place an unmanned vehicle on the moon by 2010.

The lunar satellite is designed to obtain 3D images of the lunar surface, analyze the content of useful elements and minerals, and probe the depth of the lunar soil and the space environment between the earth and the moon. — MNA/Xinhua

Sino-Italian energy-saving building comes into use

BEIJING, 8 July — A new building using the world’s most advanced energy-saving technologies came into use Thursday at China’s prestigious Qinghua University.

The building, jointly constructed by China’s Ministry of Science and Technology and Italy’s Environment Ministry, will be used as a teaching building for the Environmental Science and Engineering Department of the university.

Italian Environment Minister Alfonso Pecoraro Scanio, who officially opened the building, said energy-saving technologies and renewable energies were important in realizing sustainable development.

The building would provide a new forum for cooperation on the environment and energy between China and Italy.

Chinese Minister of Science and Technology Xu Guanhua said China must urgently construct more environment-friendly and energy-saving buildings to meet the demand for sustainable development and building a harmonious society. — MNA/Xinhua

Study shows boost radiotherapy helps early breast cancer

LONDON, 8 July — A booster dose of radiotherapy may help stop young women with very early breast cancer from progressing to a more serious form of the disease, researchers said on Thursday.

Ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) is a pre-cancer that occurs in cells lining the breast milk ducts. It is contained within the ducts and has not yet spread to the surrounding breast tissue.

Surgery is usually performed to remove the cells and stop the cancer returning. If the DCIS is extensive, a mastectomy may be necessary. Radiotherapy can also be used to kill remaining cancer cells.

But scientists who compared different treatments for DCIS said their findings show radiotherapy and a boost dose improves the patients’ chances. “First, not using radiotherapy in young patients with DCIS resulted in an unacceptable number of women having their cancer return and second, these patients benefit from an additional boost dose,” said Guenter Gruber of the Kantonsspital in Aarau, Switzerland.

He and a team of researchers analyzed the outcomes of 373 women of 45 years old or younger who had been treated in 18 different institutions throughout the world for DCIS.

One sixth had surgery to remove the DCIS. Nearly half had surgery plus radiotherapy and the remainder had surgery, radiotherapy and a boost dose.

The risk of a recurrence of DCIS or invasive breast cancer decreased with each additional treatment. “Our findings clearly suggest that the radiation dose is very important for local tumour control for patients with DCIS aged 45 years or younger.” Gruber said in a report in The Lancet Oncology journal. — MNA/Reuters

Women compete in a high-heel sprint in Moscow’s Red Square on 8 July, 2006. Some 150 women took part in the race wearing high-heeled shoes with required minimum height of 9 centimetres (3.5 inches) to compete for a shopping voucher worth 100,000 roubles ($3,726). — INTERNET

The reigning Miss Universe 2005 Natalie Glebova of Canada poses in Los Angeles on 7 July, 2006. The Miss Universe pageant will be telecast to a worldwide audience from Los Angeles on 23 July. — INTERNET
Figo, Pauleta end Portugal careers

**STUTTGART, 9 July**—Portugal captain Luis Figo quit international football following his team’s 3-1 defeat to Germany in Saturday’s third-place play-off.

Striker Pauleta also announced the end of his Portuguese career.

Figo, 33, revealed his decision to Portuguese television following the game in which he made a brief substitute appearance late on and set up his side’s consolation goal for Nuno Gomes.

One of the few players to have represented both Spanish arch-rivals Real Madrid and Barcelona, Figo had initially announced the end of his Portuguese career after the 2004 European Championship, which his side hosted and finished as runners-up.

But he re-considered his decision last year, to the delight of coach Luiz Felipe Scolari. FIFA’s 2001 World Player of the Year is Portugal’s most capped player with 127 appearances in which he has scored 32 goals.

“It is hard for me to end my international career in this way. I did everything I could and the team gave their all,” he told Portuguese TV reporters.

“I’m very proud to have been part of this team,” he said. “It’s very difficult to leave after 15 years but the time had to come in the end.”

**Bryans complete career slam in doubles**

**LONDON, 9 July**—Americans Bob and Mike Bryan completed a career doubles Grand Slam on Saturday when they beat Frenchman Fabrice Santoro and Serb partner Nenad Zimonjic to win their first Wimbledon title.

The twins’ 6-3, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2 victory means they are only the third doubles team to win all four Grand Slam titles in the professional era.

They join Dutch duo Jacco Eltingh and Paul Haarhuis and Australian pair Mark Woodforde and Todd Woodbridge.

“This was the last one to get and the one we’ve dreamed about,” said Mike Bryan.

“There’s some legends on that board. Until now we could only say we lost in the final so it’s gonna be sweet to say we’re Wimbledon champions.”

The Bryans were surprisingly beaten in last year’s final by qualifiers Wesley Moodie and Stephen Huss.

They were also competing in their seventh successive Grand Slam final, having become the first men’s doubles team in the professional era to reach six at this year’s French Open.

**Schweinsteiger takes Germany to third spot**

**STUTTGART, 9 July**—Midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger scored two goals and forced the other as World Cup hosts Germany beat Portugal 3-1 to claim third place on Saturday.

Schweinsteiger fired home his first goal of the competition from long range in the 56th minute to put Germany ahead.

Five minutes later, a Schweinsteiger free kick was deflected into his own net by Portugal midfielder Petit, a halftime substitute.

Schweinsteiger added a third with a similar effort to his first in the 78th minute, the ball flying into the top right corner.

Substitute Luis Figuereiro created Portugal’s consolatory goal which back-posting goalkeeper Ricardo did well to tip over.

Ricardo also turned away a piledriver shot from Lukas Podolski following a free kick.

At the other end, German goalkeeper Oliver Kahn, making his first appearance at the World Cup after being relegated to the bench for the serious part of the tournament, denied Pauleta in the 15th minute.

Pauleta was sent clean through by Simao Sabrosa’s pass but Kahn rushed out of his goal to block the Portugal striker’s side-footed effort. Pauleta, who has managed only one goal, also wasted an excellent chance in the 53rd minute when he shot weakly at Kahn with Ronaldo free and screaming for the ball to his left.

In the 56th minute, Schweinsteiger broke the deadlock as he skipped past two challenges and scored with a screaming 30-metre shot as the flight of the ball appeared to deceive Ricardo. Five minutes later, Germany won a free kick on the left and another Schweinsteiger rocket was deflected into the net by the hapless Petit.

**Wimbledon title tastes sweet for Mauresmo**

**LONDON, 9 July**—Like a cherished bottle of wine, Amelie Mauresmo said the sudden fulfilment of her career tastes even better because the pleasure has been a few years coming.

The French 27-year-old’s 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory over Justine Henin-Hardenne at Wimbledon on Sunday sealed a second Grand Slam title in six months after seven years of near misses and questions about her nerve.

“It is very sweet, I think,” the world number one told reporters. “Maybe if I had come the first time I was in a Grand Slam final seven years ago, maybe it would have not had the same taste.

“Things come when they have to come. For a few months now it seems to be working pretty well for me. “It seems that I’ve finally found how to handle the nerves a bit better. I think everything is really coming together.”

Her Australian Open title in January failed to silence her critics because she was gifted the final when Henin-Hardenne retired while trailing by a set and 0-2 because of illness.

She also had a stroke of fortune in the semifinal in Melbourne when Kim Clijsters retired injured.

Popular opinion said she was still a choker when it came to the biggest moments in her career.

**Answers to yesterday’s Crossword Puzzle**

**BR K E A R S S W E I G H T**

**A T R I L E E N O S T O N E**

**S T E R N V A R I E T Y**

**H U B G E S S E D**

**F R A D A W S T E A D F A S T S F E E**

**T O L O O L S A N N**

**D E F A M E D O U B T S**

**R E R T F I R S L E S S**

**A R C R O U N D H E A D**

**S T A N E S I T**

**C R I S T I A N R O O F T**

**E L I T E W E E L**

**T R E E L L O Y A L T Y**

**Tiger Woods reacts to missing a birdie on the eighth hole during the third round of the Western Open golf tournament in Lemont, Illinois, on 8 July, 2006.**

**Klinsmann still taking time over job decision**

**BERLIN, 9 July**—Juergen Klinsmann again asked for more time to decide whether he will stay on as Germany coach even as a crowd of 52,000 chanted his name and one-time critic Franz Beckenbauer pleaded with him to continue on Saturday.

“The ‘Kaiser’ said ‘you’d better keep going’,“ Klinsmann told a news conference when asked what the man who captained and later coached West Germany teams to World Cup wins said to him on the pitch after Germany beat Portugal 3-1 for third place.

“I told him ‘let’s wait and see what happens’,” Klinsmann said.

Klinsmann added to laughter as he borrowed Beckenbauer’s favourite “Schauermal” phrase and turned it against his mentor.

“But seriously, I’m delighted that maybe to handle the nerves a bit better. I think everything is really coming together.”

Klinsmann has faced criticism for his training methods, reliance on US fitness trainers and a Swiss scout, use of a team psychologist and attacking tactics. But now all the critics and the whole nation want him to stay.

**Paula Creamer of the US reacts to missing a putt on the seventh hole during the quarterfinals of the LPGA Women’s World MatchPlay Golf Championships in Gladstone, New Jersey, on 8 July, 2006.**

**INTERNET**

**INTERNET**
Oil falls after hitting record $75.78

LONDON, 9 July — Oil fell from a record high of 75.78 US dollars a barrel on Friday on signs of easing tension between the West and Iran, the world’s fourth largest oil exporter.

Iran’s chief nuclear negotiator said he had a “positive impression” of a Western proposal for Iran to stop enriching uranium in return for a package of incentives. Oil had earlier risen due to strong demand in the United States.

US crude settled up 1.05 US dollars lower at 74.09 US dollars a barrel, after hitting an all-time high of 75.78 US dollars. London Brent crude was down 57 cents to 73.51 US dollars, after hitting a record 75.09 US dollars.

Prices drew early support from a US Government report on Thursday showing gasoline demand grew by 1.4 per cent in the last four weeks from a year ago. Data released on Friday showed US jobless figures stayed at a five-year low in June.

“As the global economy is staying strong, demand is going to be very supportive,” said Tony Dolphin of Henderson Global Investors.

“I don’t see oil falling back a lot, I think it is likely to remain in a range and perhaps gradually drift higher.” — MNA/Reuters

Asleep in Jesus
James Ba Khin U Ohn Maung (75) years
Son of (Captain Ba Khin-Daw Khin Nyunt); beloved husband of (Margaret Khin Aye Thwe); sister of Irene Dinzil Owen; (Captain Kyaw Wai-Daw Khin Hla Si; (Genevieve); Maurice U Maung Maung Galay, Dy GM Mayflower Bank—(Daw Khin Sann); Cyril U Zaw Wynn, Adviser MEC (Reit)—Yangon Divisional Engineer MEPE—Shirley Daw Kyi Kyi Mar, Aasit: Dr. (Reit) Ministry of Finance & Planning; father of Daw Moo Lwin-U Soe Thein; U Soe Moo Naing-Elizabeth; grandfather of Johnathan, Jamie & Mary, Expired at 16/90 Nwe That Gi., 6th Lane on 2-7-2006. Funeral mass followed by cremation will take place at Ye Waetory at 9:00 am on Tuesday 11-7-2006. Bereaved Family

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas

WEATHER
Sunday, 9 July, 2006

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours MST: During the past 24 hours, rain or showers have been isolated in Chin and Kayah States, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Shan State and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavy falls in Rakhine State, Mandalay and Bago Divisions and isolated heavy falls in Kayin and Mon States. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Thandwe (11.46) inches, Kyaukpyu (7.09) inches, Sittway (6.65) inches, An (2.60) inches, Mawlamyine (3.62) inches, Shweygon (3.34) inches, Pyinmana (2.60) inches and Nay Pyi Taw (2.13) inches.

Maximum temperature on 8-7-2006 was 85°F. Minimum temperature on 9-7-2006 was 68°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 9-7-2006 was (93%). Total sunshine hours on 8-7-2006 was nil.

Rainfalls on 9-7-2006 were (0.87) inch at Mingladon, (1.65) inches at Kaba-Aye and (1.30) inches at Central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-1-2006 were (39.45) inches at Mingladon, (49.17) inches at Kaba-Aye and (53.15) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (25) mph from Southwest at (14:00) hours MST on 8-7-2006.

Bay influence: Monsoon is strong in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 10-7-2006: Rain or showers will be isolated in Kayah State, lower Sagaing and Magway Divisions, scattered in Chin, Shan States and Mandalay Division, fairly widespread in upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions and widespread in the remaining areas with isolated heavy falls in Rakhine, Kayin and Mon States and Yangon Division. Degree of certainty is (100%).

State of the sea: Squalls with rough sea are likely at times off and along Myanmar Coast. Surface wind speed in squalls may reach (35 to 40) mph.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Strong monsoon.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 10-7-2006: One or two rain or showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 10-7-2006: Some rain. Degree of certainty is (100%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 10-7-2006: Isolated rain or showers. Degree of certainty is (80%).
IPRD opens libraries in urban and rural regions to enable the people to easily study various sectors of knowledge for emergence of constant learning society

YANGON, 9 July — A ceremony to mark the completion of the tasks of opening self-reliant village libraries in the whole Sagaing Division was held at the City Hall in Monywa, Sagaing Division, yesterday morning.

It was attended by Chairman of Sagaing Division Peace and Development Council Commander of North-West Command Maj-Gen Tha Aye, Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan, Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint, Chairperson of Sagaing Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee wife of the commander Daw Wai Wai Khaing, senior military officers, departmental officials and wellwishers.

In his speech, Commander Maj-Gen Tha Aye said that nowadays, the Government is performing three tasks such as ‘stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order’, building the economic infrastructure of the State’, and ‘enhancement of education sector for development of human resources’.

The functions of human resources development can be divided into two parts — the formal education and the nonformal education. With regard to the formal education, the 30-year long-term education promotion plan is being implemented within six five-year short terms from 2001-2002 to 2030-2031 financial years for ensuring enhancement of six sectors such as the human resources development, the application of technologies, the conducting research, the emergence of constant learning society, the uplift of education standard, and the preservation of national identity and national value.

With regard to the nonformal education, the Information and Public Relations Department under the Ministry of Information has opened libraries in urban areas as well as self-reliant village libraries in rural regions to enable the people to easily study various sectors of knowledge for the emergence of constant learning society. In Sagaing Division, 5,974 self-reliant village libraries have been opened. Self-reliant libraries have been opened in the whole division in March 2006. (See page 9)

---

The departments and non-governmental organizations are therefore urged to strengthen cooperation and collaboration with the Ministry of Immigration and Population and the UNFPA to accomplish this year’s World Population Day tasks.

---

Defender Materazzi of Italy points to the sky as he is surrounded by his team-mates after levelling the scores in the first half in Berlin.

INTERNET

WORLD CUP 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

---

---

---

---